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military authorities will always take place through the channel of the Allied High Command.

5. All civil commissions or officials already appointed or to be appointed by any one or more of the Allied and Associated Powers who deal with matters affecting the civil administration or the economic life of the civilian population in the occupied territory shall, if they are retained, be placed under the authority of the High Commission.

6. (a) The appointment of each High Commissioner shall be subject to the approval of all the Allied and Associated Governments represented.

(b) The French member of the High Commission shall be president thereof.

(c) The decisions of the High Commission shall be reached by a majority of votes.

(d) Each High Commissioner shall have one vote. But in case of an equality of votes the president shall have the right to give a casting vote.

(e) In either of these two cases the dissenting High Commissioner, or High Commissioners, may appeal to their governments. But such an appeal shall not, in case of urgency, delay the putting into execution of the decisions taken, which shall then be carried out under the responsibility of the members voting for the decisions.

7. In issuing decrees and proclamations or otherwise interfering with civil administration under a state of siege, the commander in chief shall continue to act in consultation with and only after approval by the High Commission.

This shall, of course, not apply to action of a purely military nature.

DECLARATION BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE IN REGARD TO THE OCCUPATION OF THE  
RHINE PROVINCES.<sup>1</sup>

*June 16, 1919.*

The Allied and Associated Powers did not insist on making the period of occupation last until the reparation clauses were completely executed, because they assumed that Germany would be obliged to give

<sup>1</sup> British Command, Paper No. 240

every proof of her good will and every necessary guarantee before the end of the fifteen years' time.

As the cost of occupation involves an equivalent reduction of the amount available for reparations, the Allied and Associated Powers stipulated, by Article 431 of the treaty, that if before the end of the fifteen years' period Germany had fulfilled all her obligations under the treaty, the troops of occupation should be immediately withdrawn.

If Germany, at the earlier date, has given proofs of her good will and satisfactory guarantees to assure the fulfillment of her obligations the Allied and Associated Powers concerned will be ready to come to an agreement between themselves for the earlier termination of the period of occupation.

Now and henceforward, in order to alleviate the burden of the reparations bill, they agree that as soon as the Allied and Associated Powers concerned are convinced that the conditions of disarmament by Germany are being satisfactorily fulfilled, the annual amount of the sums to be paid by Germany to cover the cost of occupation shall not exceed 240 million marks (gold). This provision can be modified if the Allied and Associated Powers agree as to the necessity of such modification.

(Signed)      WOODROW WILSON.  
                 G. CLEMENCEAU.  
                 D. LLOYD GEORGE.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE PROVIDING FOR  
ASSISTANCE TO FRANCE IN THE EVENT OF UNPROVOKED AGGRESSION  
BY GERMANY.<sup>1</sup>

*Signed at Versailles June 28, 1919.*

Whereas the United States of America and the French Republic are equally animated by the desire to maintain the peace of the world so happily restored by the Treaty of Peace signed at Versailles the 28th day of June, 1919, putting an end to the war begun by the aggression of the German Empire and ended by the defeat of that Power; and,

Whereas the United States of America and the French Republic are fully persuaded that an unprovoked movement of aggression by

<sup>1</sup> Senate Document No. 63, 66th Congress, 1st Session. Not ratified at the date of publication herein.